

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An application test management system comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon the following components executable by a processor:

a version component that monitors source under test components and test components for changes;

a test case file component that includes metadata associated with test components and source under test components received from the version component that indicates relationships between versions of source under test components and versions of test cases, the test case file component ~~includes attributes necessary for query and test management and~~ is continuously modified such that new features are added and/or removed to test changes in the source under test components, ~~source under test components represent specific versions of source code;~~

a build drop component that comprises an executable version of the software under test and includes changed data from the version component; and

a test catalog that provides a repository for a collection of test case files, test cases, test variations, and namespace metadata and is ~~, the test catalog is~~ constructed from aggregation of individual test case files which relate to each other in a hierarchical fashion;

wherein the test case file component generates test results that are tagged with the versions of the source under test components and saved to a data store for historical analysis, ~~the test results and version component are all version tagged data and dependent on the versions of the software under test;~~

wherein the test case file component receives version data from the version component and stores the version data to is an XML document, the XML document is transformed utilizing XSLT to enable a user to view at least one of exception patterns, trends, productivity, and success rates ~~and is loaded into memory or treated as a database and wherein XSLT is employed~~

~~to facilitate management operations including at least one of query, reporting, suite composition and scheduling; and~~

~~wherein the test case file component is located in the source file under test and is loaded into the test catalog.~~

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the test case file component includes a pointer to the source under test.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the test case file component includes a pointer to requirement for test data.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the test case file component includes a pointer to requirement and/or configuration under test data.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the test case file component includes a pointer to a test case component.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the test case component specified in the test case file component is loaded into the test catalog.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein a test execution component executes the test case on the software under test and generates test results.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A test management system comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon the following components executable by a processor:

a means for maintaining fine-grained track of a test's relation to a version of software under test;

a means for querying test data to facilitate generation of test management reports;

a means for continuously modifying test data such that new features are added and/or removed to test version changes to the software under test; and

a means for generating test results that are tagged with test version data in relation to the version of software under test, the test results and test version data are all version tagged data and dependent on the versions of the software under test;

wherein the means for maintaining fine-grained track of a test's relation to a version of software under test includes persisting software version information and related test information to an XML file, and wherein the XML file is transformed utilizing XSLT to enable ~~test data to be queried~~ a user to view at least one of exception patterns, trends, productivity, and success rates.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A test management methodology comprising:

retrieving metadata regarding test version information in relation to software code version under test;

persisting the metadata to a markup language file versioned with test assets and source code;

continuously modifying test information such that new features are added and/or removed to test version changes to the software code under test, wherein the file is an XML file;
generating test results that are tagged with test version information in relation to software code version under test, the test results and test version information are all version tagged data and dependent on the versions of the software code under test; and
transforming the XML file utilizing XSLT to enable a user to view at least one of exception patterns, trends, productivity, and success rates and management operations ~~to be performed on the data~~ including at least one of selection, query, reporting, suit composition, and scheduling.

18 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein version information is retrieved from a version component that monitors changes to source code versions and test versions.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the file comprises a pointer to at least one of a source under test, requirement under test, and configuration under test.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 17.

23. (Currently Amended) A testing methodology comprising:
loading a test case in accordance with a test case file stored in a source file;
executing the test case on a source code under test;
generating test results, wherein the test results are version tagged to indicate the relationships between test results, version of the test case, and version of the source code under test;

continuously modifying test information such that new features are added and/or removed to test version changes to the source code under test;

saving test results to an XML file, the XML file stores metadata associated with the test cases and source code and contains at least one of pointers to the source under test, requirements under test and configuration under test;

providing a repository for a collection of test case files, test cases, test variations, and namespace metadata, wherein the repository is constructed from aggregation of individual test case files which relate to each other in a hierarchical fashion; and

employing XSLT to facilitate management operations including at least one of query, reporting, suite composition and scheduling.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising publishing the test results to an enterprise data store.

26. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the version tags indicate the version of the source under test and the version of the test.

27. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 23.